GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2573
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2017
Social Security for Senior Citizens
Sonker Smt. Neelam

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is committed towards making available social security including compulsory pension scheme, housing scheme and health services for the senior citizens above 60 years of age;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has implemented rules to provide health facilities on the lines of CGHS to all senior citizens above 60 years of age;

(d) whether the Government proposes to grant compulsory old age pension to all senior citizens of the country; and

(e) if so, the time by which the Government is likely to make announcement in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)
(a) to (c) As per the information furnished by Ministry of Rural Development, old age pension is provided under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme(IGNOAPS) to the beneficiaries belonging to below poverty line(BPL) household only. Under the scheme Rs. 200/- pm is provided to the beneficiaries of age 60-79 years and Rs. 500/- is provided in the age of 80 years or more. IGNOAPS is implemented by the States/UTs.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (Urban) {PMAY(U} Mission for providing assistance to States/UTs in addressing the housing requirement of all urban poor. The Mission comprises four components viz in-situ slum redevelopment; affordable housing through credit-linked subsidy; affordable housing in partnership; and subsidy for beneficiary-led individual house construction.

PMAY(U) Mission emphasizes that preference in allotment of houses may be given, inter alia, to senior citizens and other weaker and vulnerable sections of the society. The guidelines further provide that while making allotments, families with persons with disability and senior citizens may be allotted houses preferably on the ground floor or lower floors.

So far in health services to the elderly is concerned, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had launched "National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly" (NPHCE) during 2010-11 to address various health related problems of elderly people. The major objectives of the NPHCE are establishment of Department of Geriatric in identified Medical Institutions as Regional Geriatric Centres for different regions of the country and to provide dedicated health facilities in District Hospitals, Community Health Centres(CHCs), Primary Health Centres(PHCs) and Sub-Centres(SCs) levels through State Health Society. The health care facilities, being provided under this programme, are either free or highly subsidised. Following facilities are being provided under the Programme:
â€¢ Geriatric OPD, 30 bedded Geriatric ward for in-patient care, etc at Regional Geriatric Centres.
â€¢ Geriatric OPD and 10 bedded Geriatric Ward at District Hospitals.
â€¢ Bi-weekly Geriatric Clinic at Community health Centres (CHCs).
â€¢ Weekly Geriatric Clinic at Primary Health Centre (PHCs).
â€¢ Provision of Aids and Appliances at Sub-centres.

(d) & (e) As informed by the Ministry of Rural Development, at present, there is no proposal, under consideration of MoRD to grant compulsory old age pension to all senior citizens of the country.